

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
/046 W

-----231549Z 093957 /43

R 201656Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3049

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 3971

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR IV LI

SUBJ: AIR AFRIQUE PROPOSES LIBERIAN MEMBERSHIP

1. RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION VASSIRIKI SAVANE ELICITED THE INFORMATION THAT AIR AFRIQUE HAS PROPOSED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA THE ACCESSION OF LIBERIA TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE AIRLINE. HILLARY B DAVID, FIRST SECRETARY AT THE LIBERIAN EMBASSY IN ABIDJAN CONFIRMED THAT THE CONCEPT IS UNDER STUDY BY WILLIAM E DENNIS JR, LIBERIAN MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TRANSPORTATION.

2. SAVANE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT AIR AFRIQUE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO SUSTAIN THE BURDEN OF SUBSIDIZING AIR SERVICES TO AND FOR CHAD AND THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE NOW THAT GABON HAS QUIT THE AIRLINE. HE SUGGESTED THAT THOSE COUNTRIES MIGHT HAVE TO LOOK TO AIR GABON FOR SUPPORT.

3. IVORY COAST HAS LONG BEEN A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF AIR AFRIQUE, AND WAS CLEARLY UPSET BY GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO'S DECISION TO BREAK AWAY. THE INVITATION TO LIBERIA TO JOIN THE AIRLINE
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PRESUMABLY IS AN EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN THE AIRLINE ECONOMICALLY. IT WOULD HAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR US AIR INTERESTS, SINCE BOTH DAKAR AND MONROVIA, THE ONLY TWO FEASIBLE AFRICAN GATEWAY POINTS FOR PANAM, WOULD THEN BE UNDER AIR AFRIQUE CONTROL.
STEARNS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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TAGS: EAIR, IV, LI, AIR AFRIQUE
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